

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DLOS-06

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAL-01 /117 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0773

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS KS US

SUBJ: ROKG PREPARES TO SIGN GIFA

REF: STATE 290124, TOKYO 17311 (NOTAL), SEOUL 9300

1. THE CONVERSATIONS REPORTED FIRST REFTEL AND SIGNING OF A GOVERNING INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES AGREEMENT (GIFA) BY THE USSR ON NOVEMBER 26, 1976 HAS APPARENTLY DISSOLVED ANY LINGERING KOREAN INCLINATION TO PROLONG ITS OWN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES AND US NEGOTIATORS MAY EXPECT THE DECEMBER 8-10 TALKS AT WASHINGTON TO RESULT IN A SIGNED DOCUMENT.

2. FOR MANY MONTHS MR. SHIN SANG-JOON, PRESIDENT OF KMIDC, HAS WAGED A LONELY CAMPAIGN WITH THE ROKG UP TO THE PRESIDENTIAL LEVEL TOWARD AN EARLY GIFA SIGNING. THE THIRTEEN OTHER KOREAN DEEP SEA FISHING FIRMS, WITH LEE HAK SOO, PRESIDENT OF KOREA WONYANG PULLING THE STRINGS, HAVE OPPOSED GIFA SIGNATURE IN FAVOR OF

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CONTINUING THEIR ACTIVITIES UNTIL DECEMBER, 1977 WHEN THE PRESENT

US/ROK BILATERAL EXPIRES. PATIENT EXPLANATION BY ROKG OFFICIALS OF US LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND THE US INTERPRETATION THAT THE PRESENT AGREEMENT WOULD NOT PERMIT FISHING AFTER MARCH 1, 1977 WAS REQUIRED TO OVERCOME THE LEGAL ADVICE WHICH THE 13 COMPANIES HAD BEEN RECEIVING.

3. MR. STEVEN PERLES, STAFF ATTORNEY TO SENATOR STEVENS, MET WITH AMBASSADOR SNEIDER AND WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FISHERIES, ADMIRAL SHIN, AND WAS GIVEN A LUNCHEON BY ROKG CHIEF NEGOTIATOR HAM TAE HYUK DURING HIS NOVEMBER 30TH PROGRAM IN SEOUL. KOREAN NORTHERN PACIFIC FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES INFORMED HIM UPON HIS ARRIVAL IN PUSAN THAT THEY NOW REALIZE THEIR SITUATION AND THEY CONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS THAT THE ROKG HAD DECIDED THAT THE DECEMBER 8-10 TALKS IN WASHINGTON SHOULD CONCLUDE IN A GIFA SIGNING. HOWEVER, ADMIRAL SHIN TALKED TO PERLES ONLY OF HIS EFFORTS TO INCREASE SURVEILLANCE OVER THE ROK FISHING FLEET WITHOUT MENTIONING GIFA, AND HAM'S QUESTIONS AND REMARKS CENTERED ONLY ON THE NECESSITY OF INCLUDING ARTICLE X IN THE GIFA. PERLES FIRST INSISTED THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT REQUIRED ARTICLE X, BUT HIS SUBSEQUENT REMARKS SUGGESTED THAT CONGRESSIONAL LAWYERS WERE EXAMINING THE SEVERAL GIFA'S TO BE SURE IT IS INCLUDED.
SNEIDER

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